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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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ART UNIT 1638       PAPER NUMBER 21

DATE MAILED: 09/27/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Art Unit: 1638

Claim 17 remains allowable, and newly submitted claim 18 is allowable. However, due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED until a determination is made as to whether the interference proceeding is appropriate. At that time Applicants will be notified and prosecution of this application renewed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David T. Fox whose telephone number is (703) 308-0280. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 10:30AM to 7:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amy Nelson, can be reached on (703) 306-3218. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306. The after final fax phone number is (703) 872-9307.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

September 21, 2001

DAVID T. FOX  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
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